

CON

There will be a new *confection* of mould, which perhaps will alter the seed. *Bacon's Natural History*, No. 528.
CONFECTIONARY, *n. f.* [from *confection*.] One whose trade is to make sweetmeats.

Myself,
 Who had the world as my *confectionary*,
 The mouths, the tongues, the eyes, the hearts of men
 At duty, more than I could frame employments. *Shaksp.*
CONFECTIONER, *n. f.* [from *confection*.] One whose trade is to make confections or sweetmeats.
Confectioners make much use of whites of eggs. *Boyle*.
CONFEDERACY, *n. f.* [*confederation*, Fr. *fœdus*, Latin.] A league; a contract by which several persons or bodies of men engage to support each other; union; engagement; federal compact.

What *confederacy* have you with the traitors? *Sh. K. Lear*.
 Judas sent them to Rome, to make a league of amity and confederacy with them. *Mac. viii. 17*.
 Virgil has a whole *confederacy* against him, and I must endeavour to defend him. *Dryden's Virg. Æn. Dedication*.
 • The friendships of the world are oft
Confederacies in vice, or leagues of pleasure. *Addison*.
 An avaricious man in office is in *confederacy* with the whole clan of his district, or dependance; which, in modern terms of art, is called to live and let live. *Swift's Examiner*, No. 27.
TO CONFEDERATE, *v. a.* [*confederer*, French.] To join in a league; to unite; to ally.

They were secretly *confederated* with Charles's enemy.
Knolly's History of the Turks.
TO CONFEDERATE, *v. n.* To league; to unite in a league.
 By words men come to know one another's minds; by those they covenant and *confederate*. *South's Sermons*.
 It is a *confederating* with him to whom the sacrifice is offered. *Atterbury*.
CONFEDERATE, *adj.* [from the verb.] United in league.
 For they have conspired together with one consent: they are *confederate* against thee. *Pf. lxxxiii. 5*.

All the swords
 In Italy, and her *confederate* arms,
 Could not have made this peace. *Shakspere's Coriolanus*.
 While the mind of man looketh upon second causes scattered, it may sometimes rest in them, and go no farther; but when it beholdeth the chain of them *confederate* and linked together, it must need fly to providence and deity. *Bacon*.
 Oh race *confederate* into crimes, that prove
 Triumphant o'er the eluded rage of Jove! *Pope's Statius*.
 In a *confederate* war, it ought to be considered which party has the deepest share in the quarrel. *Swift*.
CONFEDERATE, *n. f.* [from the verb.] One who engages to support another; an ally.

Sir Edmund Courtney, and the haughty prelate,
 With many more *confederates*, are in arms. *Sh. Richard III*.
 We still have fresh recruits in store.
 If our *confederates* can afford us more. *Dryden's Æn*.
CONFEDERATION, *n. f.* [*confederation*, French.] League; compact of mutual support; alliance.

The three princes enter into some strict league and *confederation* amongst themselves. *Bacon's Henry VII*.
 Nor can those *confederations* or designs be durable, when subjects make bankrupt of their allegiance. *King Charles*.
TO CONFEDERATE, *v. n.* [*confederer*, Lat. *confederer*, French.] To discourse with another upon a stated subject; to ventilate any question by oral discussion; to converse solemnly; to talk gravely together; to compare sentiments.

You will hear us *confer* of this, and by an auricular assurance have your satisfaction. *Shakspere's King Lear*.
 Reading makes a full man, conference a ready man, and writing an exact man; and therefore, if a man write little, he had need have a great memory; if he *confer* little, he had need have a present wit; and if he read little, he had need have much cunning, to seem to know that he doth not. *Bacon*.
 When they had commanded them to go aside out of the council, they *conferred* among themselves. *Acts, iv. 15*.
 He was thought to *confer* with the lord Colepeper upon the subject; but had some particular thoughts, upon which he then *conferred* with nobody. *Clarendon, b. viii*.

The Christian princes in her tent *confer*
 With fifty of your learn'd philosophers;
 Whom with such eloquence she does persuade,
 That they are captives to her reasons made. *Dryd. Tyr. Love*.

TO CONFEDERATE, *v. a.*
 1. To compare; to examine by comparison with other things of the same kind.
 The words in the 5th verse, *conferred* with the same words in the 20th, make it manifest. *Kaleigh's History of the World*.
 If we *confer* these observations with others of the like nature, we may find cause to rectify the general opinion. *Boyle*.
 Pliny *confering* his authors, and comparing their works together, found those that went before transcribed by those that followed. *Brown's Vulgar Errors*, b. i. c. 6.
 2. To give; to bestow; with *en* before him who receives the gift.

CON

Rest to the limbs, and quiet I *confer*
 On troubled minds. *Waller*.
 The *confering* this honour upon him would increase the credit he had. *Clarendon, b. viii*.
 Coronation to a king, *confers* no royal authority upon him. *South*.
 There is not the least intimation in scripture of this privilege *conferred* upon the Roman church. *Tillotson*.
 Thou *conferrest* the benefits, and he receives them; the first produces love, and the last ingratitude. *Arbutnot, Hist. of J. Bull*.

3. To contribute; to conduce. With *to*.
 The closeness and compactness of the parts resting together, doth much *confer* to the strength of the union. *Glanv*.
CONFERENCE, *n. f.* [*conference*, French.]
 1. The act of conversing on serious subjects; formal discourse; oral discussion of any question.
 I shall grow skillful in country matters, if I have often *conference* with your servant. *Sidney, b. ii*.
 Sometime they deliver it, whom privately zeal and piety moveth to be instructors of others by *conference*; sometime of them it is taught, whom the church hath called to the publick, either reading thereof, or interpreting. *Hooker, b. v. f. 22*.
 What passion hangs these weights upon my tongue!
 I cannot speak to her; yet the urg'd *conference*. *Shakspere*.
 2. An appointed meeting for discussing some point, by personal debate.

3. Comparison; examination of different things by comparison of each with other.
 Our diligence must search out all helps and furtherances, which scriptures, councils, laws, and the mutual *conference* of all men's collections and observations may afford. *Hooker*.
 The *conference* of these two places, containing so excellent a piece of learning as this, exprest by so worthy a wit as Tully's was, must needs bring on pleasure to him that maketh true account of learning. *Afham's Schoolmaster*.

CONFERRER, *n. f.* [from *confer*.]
 1. He that confers.
 2. He that bestows.
TO CONFESS, *v. a.* [*confesser*, Fr. *confiteor* *confessum*, Latin.]
 1. To acknowledge a crime; to own a failure.
 He doth in some sort confess it. If it be *confessed*, it is not redressed. *Shakspere's Merry Wives of Windsor*.
 Human faults with human grief *confess*;
 'Tis thou art chang'd. *Prior*.

2. It has *of* before the thing confessed, when it is used reciprocally.
Confess thee freely of thy sin;
 For to deny each article with oath,
 Cannot remove nor choke the strong conception. *Sh. Othello*.
 3. To disclose the state of the conscience to the priest, in order to repentance and pardon.

If our sin be only against God, yet to *confess* it to his minister may be of good use. *Wake's Preparation for Death*.
 4. To hear the confession of a penitent, as a priest.
 5. To own; to avow; to profess; not to deny.
 Whoever therefore shall *confess* me before men, him will I *confess* also before my father which is in heaven; but whoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my father which is in heaven. *Matt. x. 32, 33*.

6. To grant; not to dispute.
 They may have a clear view of good, great and *confessed* good, without being concerned, if they can make up their happiness without it. *Locke*.

7. To shew; to prove; to attest.
 Tall thriving trees *confess'd* the fruitful mold;
 The red'ning apple ripens here to gold. *Pope's Odyssey, b. vii*.
 8. It is used in a loose and unimportant sense by way of introduction, or as an affirmative form of speech.
 I must *confess* I was most pleased with a beautiful prospect, that none of them have mentioned. *Addison on Italy*.

TO CONFESS, *v. n.* To make confession; to disclose; to reveal; as, he is gone to the priest to *confess*.
CONFESSEDLY, *adv.* [from *confessed*.] Avowedly; indubitably.
 Labour is *confessedly* a great part of the curse, and therefore no wonder if men fly from it. *South*.
 Great genius, like great ministers, though they are *confessedly* the first in the commonwealth of letters, must be envied and calumniated. *Pope's Essay on Homer*.

CONFESSION, *n. f.* [from *confess*.]
 1. The acknowledgment of a crime; the discovery of one's own guilt.
 Your engaging me first in this adventure of the Moxa, and desiring the story of it from me, is like giving one the torture, and then asking his *confession*, which is hard usage. *Temple*.
 2. The act of disburdening the conscience to a priest.
 You will have little opportunity to practise such a *confession*, and should therefore supply the want of it by a due performance of it to God. *Wake's Preparation for Death*.

3. Profession; avowal.
 Who, before Pontius Pilate, witnessed a good *confession*?
 1. *Tim. vi. 13*.
 If

CON

If there be one amongst the fair'st of Greece,
 That loves his mistress more than in *confession*,
 And dare avow her beauty and her worth,
 In other arms than her's; to him this challenge. *Shaksp.*
 4. A formulary in which the articles of faith are comprised.
CONFESSORIAL, *n. f.* [French.] The seat or box in which the confessor sits to hear the declarations of his penitents.
 In one of the churches I saw a pulpit and *confessorial*, very finely inlaid with lapis-lazuli. *Addison's Remarks on Italy*.
CONFESSORIAL, *n. f.* [*confessoriale*, Fr.] The confession-chair or seat, where the priest sits to hear confessions. *Diët*.
CONFESSOR, *n. f.* [*confesseur*, French.]
 1. One who makes profession of his faith in the face of danger.
 He who dies for religion is a martyr; he who suffers for it is a confessor.
 The doctrine in the thirty-nine articles is so orthodoxly settled, as cannot be questioned without danger to our religion, which hath been sealed with the blood of so many martyrs and *confessors*. *Bacon's Advice to Villiers*.
 Was not this an excellent *confessor* at least, if not a martyr in this cause?

The patience and fortitude of a martyr or *confessor* lie concealed in the flourishing times of Christianity. *Addison's Spect*.
 It was the assurance of a resurrection that gave patience to the *confessor*, and courage to the martyr. *Rogers, Sermon viii*.
 2. He that hears confessions, and prescribes rules and measures of penitence.

See that Claudio
 Be executed by nine-to-morrow morning;
 Bring him his *confessor*, let him be prepar'd;
 For that's the utmost of his pilgrimage. *Shakspere*.
 If you find any sin that lies heavy upon you, disburthen yourself of it into the bosom of your *confessor*, who stands between God and you to pray for you. *Taylor*.
 One must be trusted; and he thought her fit,
 As passing prudent, and a pious wit:
 To this sagacious *confessor* he went,
 And told her. *Dryden's Wife of Bath*.
 3. He who confesses his crimes.
CONFEST, *adj.* [a poetical word for *confessed*.] Open; known; acknowledged; not concealed; not disputed.

But wherefore should I seek,
 Since the perfidious author stands *confest*?
 This villain has traduced me. *Roscoe's Royal Convert*.
CONFESTLY, *adv.* [from *confest*.] Undisputably; evidently; without doubt or concealment.
 They adhere to that principle which is *confestly* predominant in our nature. *Deacy of Piety*.
CONFICIENT, *adj.* [*conficiens*, Lat.] That causes or procures; effective. *Diët*.
CONFIDANT, *n. f.* [*confidant*, French.] A person trusted with private affairs, commonly with affairs of love.
 Martin compos'd his billet-doux, and intrusted it to his *confidant*. *Arbutnot and Pope's Mart. Scribblers*.
TO CONFIDE, *v. n.* [*confide*, Latin.] To trust in; to put trust in.

He alone won't betray, in whom none will *confide*. *Congr*.
CONFIDENCE, *n. f.* [*confidentia*, Latin.]
 1. Firm belief of another's integrity or veracity; reliance.
 Society is built upon trust, and trust upon *confidence* of one another's integrity. *South's Sermons*.
 2. Trust in his own abilities or fortune; security; opposed to dejection or timidity.

Alas, my lord,
 Your wisdom is consum'd in *confidence*;
 Do not go forth to-day. *Shakspere's Julius Caesar*.
 His times, being rather prosperous than calm, had raised his *confidence* by success. *Bacon's Henry VII*.
 He had an ambition and vanity, and a *confidence* in himself, which sometimes intoxicated, and transported, and exposed him. *Clarendon*.

3. Vicious boldness; false opinion of his own excellencies; opposed to modesty.
 These fervent reprehenders of things established by public authority, are always *confident* and bold-spirited men; but their *confidence*, for the most part, riseth from too much credit given to their own wits, for which cause they are seldom free from errors. *Hooker, Dedication*.
 4. Confidulousness of innocence; honest boldness; firmness of integrity.
 Be merciful unto them which have not the *confidence* of good works. *2 Esd. viii. 36*.

Just *confidence*, and native rightousness,
 And honour. *Milton's Paradise Lost, b. ix. l. 1056*.
 5. Trust in the goodness of another.
 Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, then have we *confidence* towards God. *1 Jo. iii. 21*.
 6. That which gives or causes confidence, boldness, or security.
CONFIDENT, *adj.* [from *confide*.]
 1. Assured beyond doubt.
 He is so sure and *confident* of his particular election, as to resolve he can never fall. *Hammond on Fundamentals*.

CON

I am *confident*, that very much may be done towards the improvement of philosophy. *Boyle*.
 2. Positive; affirmative; dogmatical.
 3. Secure of success; without fear of miscarriage.
 Both valiant, as men despising death; both *confident*, as unwonted to be overcome. *Sidney*.
 Douglas, and the Hot-spirit both together,
 Are *confident* against the world in arms. *Shaksp. Hen. IV*.
 Be not *confident* in a plain way.
 People forget how little they know, when they grow *confident* upon any present state of things. *South's Sermons*.
 4. Without suspicion; trusting without limits.

He, true knight,
 No lesser of her honour *confident*,
 Than I did truly find her, takes this ring. *Shal. Cymbeline*.
 Rome, be as just and gracious unto me,
 As I am *confident* and kind to thee. *Shaksp. Tit. And. And*.
 5. Bold to a vice; clated with false opinion of his own excellencies; impudent.
CONFIDENT, *n. f.* [from *confide*.] One trusted with secrets.
 If ever it comes to this, that a man can say of his *confident*, he would have deceived me, he has said enough. *South*.
 You love me for no other end,
 But to become my *confident* and friend;
 As such, I keep no secret from your sight. *Dryden's Aureng*.
CONFIDENTLY, *adv.* [from *confident*.]

1. Without doubt; without fear of miscarriage.
 We shall not be ever the less likely to meet with success, if we do not expect it too *confidently*. *Atterbury's Sermons*.
 2. With firm trust.
 The maid becomes a youth; no more delay
 Your vows, but look, and *confidently* pay. *Dryden*.
 3. Without appearance of doubt; without suspecting any failure or deficiency; positively; dogmatically.
 Many men least of all know what they themselves most *confidently* boast. *Ben. Johnson's Discoveries*.
 It is strange how the ancients took up experiments upon credit, and yet did build great matters upon them: the observation of some of the best of them, delivered *confidently*, is, that a vessel filled with ashes will receive the like quantity of water as if it had been empty; but this is utterly untrue. *Bacon's Natural History*, No. 34.

Every fool may believe, and pronounce *confidently*; but wife men will conclude firmly. *South*.
CONFIDENTNESS, *n. f.* [from *confident*.] Favourable opinion of one's own power; assurance. *Diët*.
CONFIGURATION, *n. f.* [*configuration*, French.]

1. The form of the various parts of any thing, as they are adapted to each other.
 The different effects of fire and water, which we call heat and cold, result from the so differing *configuration* and agitation of their particles. *Glanvill's Scept. c. 12*.
 No other account can be given of the different animal secretions, than the different *configuration* and action of the solid parts. *Arbutnot on Aliments*.

There is no plausive virtue concerned in shaping them, but the *configurations* of the particles whereof they consist. *Woodw*.
 2. The face of the horoscope, according to the aspects of the planets towards each other at any time.
TO CONFIGURE, *v. a.* [from *figura*, Latin.] To dispose into any form.

Mother earth brought forth legs, arms, and other members of the body, scattered and distinct, at their full growth; which coming together, cementing, and so *configuring* themselves into human shape, made lusty men. *Bentley's Sermons*.
CONFINE, *n. f.* [*confinis*, Lat.] It had formerly the accent on the last syllable. Common boundary; border; edge.

Here in these *confines* slyly have I lurk'd,
 To watch the waining of mine enemies. *Shaksp. Rich. III*.
 You are old:

Nature in you stands on the very verge
 Of her *confine*. *Shakspere's King Lear*.
 The *confines* of the river Niger, where the negroes are, are well watered. *Bacon's Natural History*, No. 399.

'Twas ebbing darkness, past the noon of night,
 And Phosphor on the *confines* of the night. *Dryd. Fables*.
 The idea of duration, equal to a revolution of the sun, is applicable to duration, where no motion was; as the idea of a foot, taken from bodies here, to distances beyond the *confines* of the world, where are no bodies. *Locke*.

CONFINE, *adj.* [*confinis*, Latin.] Bordering upon; beginning where the other ends; having one common boundary.
TO CONFINE, *v. n.* To border upon; to touch on different territories.

Half lost, I seek
 What readiest path leads where your gloomy bounds
 Confine with heav'n. *Milton's Paradise Lost, b. ii. l. 975*.
 Full in the midst of this created space,
 Betwixt heav'n, earth, and furies, there stands a place
 Confining on all three. *Dryden*.
TO CONFINE, *v. a.* [*confiner*, Fr. *confinis*, Latin.]
 1. To bound; to limit.